

1 **CONSTITUTION OF THE SANTA ROSA JUNIOR COLLEGE**
2 **ACADEMIC SENATE**
3

4 **PREAMBLE:**
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6 This Academic Senate is created to secure the professional rights and to carry out the
7 responsibilities of the faculty of the Sonoma County Junior College District. The faculty
8 have the traditional right of college faculty to participate in the governance of the
9 college. As specialists in specific disciplines and as experienced instructors, the
10 participation of the faculty in the governance of the college is essential for the district's
11 pursuit of its mission. As professionals, the faculty have a right and a duty to set
12 professional and ethical standards for the conduct of their profession and to promote
13 the excellence of their profession. In order to achieve these ends and in accordance with
14 Title 5 of the California Administrative Code, Subchapter 2, Sections 53200-53205, this
15 Academic Senate is established.
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17 **ARTICLE I: NAME**
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19 Section 1:
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21 The organization shall be known as the Santa Rosa Junior College Academic Senate,
22 hereinafter called the Senate.
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24 **ARTICLE II: PURPOSES, DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**
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26 Section 1:
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28 To promote the professional interests of the faculty of the Sonoma County Community
29 College District and to participate in the collegial governance of the college.
30

31 Section 2:
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33 To provide the faculty with a representative body to carry out all responsibilities
34 delegated to a community college academic senate by state law, the Board of Governors
35 of the California Community Colleges, and the Board of Trustees as outlined in the
36 Bylaws.
37

38 Section 3:
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40 To promote communication and mutual understanding among the faculty.
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42 Section 4:
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44 To promote the development and maintenance of teaching excellence within the
45 framework of academic freedom and professional responsibilities **and ethics in**
46 **advancement of the goals of inclusivity, diversity, equity, accessibility, and anti-**
racism (IDEAA) in all 10+1 matters.

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2 ARTICLE III: THE ELECTORATE

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4 Section 1:

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6 The Electorate means those who may run for a senate seat, vote in a senate election in
7 their area, and vote for senate president. The electorate consists of all faculty working in
8 one of two conditions: A. Contract, consisting of tenured, tenure-track, and temporary
9 full-time faculty; and B. Adjunct Associate, consisting of adjunct-associate or hourly
10 faculty who are currently employed by the district or have offer rights. Personnel whose
11 job requires an administrative or supervisory credential or who are placed on the
12 administrative salary schedule shall not be members of the senate.

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14 ARTICLE IV: MEMBERSHIP AND ORGANIZATION OF THE SENATE

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16 Section 1:

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18 Any member of the electorate can run for a seat on the Senate.

19 Section 2:

20 The Senate shall consist of 26-28 senators elected as representatives and any officers
21 who are elected at-large.

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23 Section 3:

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25 The 26-28 elected representatives shall represent at least 14-15 different areas of the
26 electorate. The method of division into the 14-15 areas shall be specified in the
27 Bylaws. Four-Six positions will be reserved for election by the adjunct associate
28 electorate as specified in the Bylaws.

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30 Section 4:

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32 Senators shall be elected for two-year terms. Half the Senate will be elected each year.

33 Section 5:

34 The officers of the Senate shall be members of the Senate and include the President,
35 President-elect, a Vice President, Executive Secretary, Equity Advocate, At-Large
36 Representative, Associate Representative, Past President, and others as deemed
37 necessary.

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39 Section 6:

40 The President-elect shall be a full-time contract, tenure-track faculty member, and a
41 current or former senator or former senator. The President-elect will be elected at-large
42 by the electorate. After serving one year, the President-elect will assume the duties of
43 the President for two years. In the election cycle at the end of the first year, the

1 President may run for a continuing term of either one or two years; if elected to a third
2 year, at the end of the second year of the first term, the President may run for a fourth
3 year. The President will not serve more than four consecutive years. After completion
4 of the terms of President, the President will may serve as Past President for up to two
5 years. The Past President may be excused from the second year as Past President by
6 agreement of the Executive Committee.

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8 Section 7:

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10 The Vice President and the, Executive Secretary, Equity Advocate, At-Large
11 Representative, and Associate Representative shall be elected from among the area
12 representatives current senators and shall serve for two years. Two to three of the
13 officers of the Senate will be elected each year.

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15 Section 8:

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17 The duties of elected representatives and the senate officers and their methods of
18 election shall be specified in the Bylaws.

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20 ARTICLE V: VACANCIES AND RECALL

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22 Section 1:

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24 When vacancies occur, upon direction of the Senate, new members or officers shall be
25 nominated and elected by the appropriate constituency as soon as possible within that
26 semester appointed by the Senate President in consultation with the Executive
27 Committee. Faculty members recruited from the representative area will be given
28 priority when filling the seat, and the Executive Committee will also strongly consider
29 the goals of IDEAA when making appointments.

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31 Section 2:

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33 When a Senator is on authorized leave, the Senate President in consultation with the
34 Executive Committee may appoint a replacement to serve until the Senator returns to
35 active service.

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37 Section 3:

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39 The recall of a Senator shall be accomplished by presentation to the Senate of a petition
40 signed by a majority of the electorate. Upon the receipt of such petition at a Senate
41 meeting, the Senate shall declare the seat vacant.

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43 ARTICLE VI: AMENDMENTS, INITIATIVE, AND REFERENDUM

44 Section 1:

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46 The constitution may be amended by the following initiative processes:
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1 Clause 1: A petition signed by ten percent of the electorate shall be presented to
2 the Senate, or the Senate may vote to submit the amendment(s) to the electorate.

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4 Clause 2: If approved by two-thirds of those voting, the amendment(s) shall
5 become effective on the date specified in the amendment(s).

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7 Section 2:

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9 Other initiative measures shall proceed as follows:

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11 Clause 1: The Senate shall place on the ballot an initiative or referendum measure
12 signed by ten percent of the electorate.

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14 Clause 2: If approved by two-thirds of the votes cast, the measure shall receive
15 appropriate action of the Senate.

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17 Section 3:

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19 Future State legislation or directives affecting Community College Academic Senates
20 shall be presented to the electorate in the form of constitutional amendments.

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22 Section 4:

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24 The President of the College and the Board of Trustees shall be consulted in advance of
25 any major changes in this document.

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27 *Revised: 05/93, 03/97, 05/97, 11/02, 05/17*